

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 SAM-01 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 SSO-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 259

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PHNOM PENH 6121

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AEMR, SOPN, CB, US

SUBJECT: REDUCTION OF US PRESS CORPS AND THEIR TCN'S, PHNOM PENH

REF: (A) STATE 081040

(B) PHNOM PENH 6098

1. IN SPITE OF OUR STRONGEST URGINGS TO US PRESS, THEIR TCN'S AND FOREIGN PRESS, THERE HAS TO DATE BEEN ONLY A MODEST REDUCTION IN THE US PRESS CORPS HERE AND A NET INCREASE IN THE FOREIGN PRESS. THE LATTER GROUP CONTINUES TO GROW. WE HAVE ALSO POSTED THE DEPT'S LATEST GUIDELINES (REF A) ON OUR EVACUATION POLICY FOR ALL INCOMING PRESS TO STUDY.

2. OUR LATEST TALLY SHOWS TWENTY-SEVEN US PRESS, FIVE TCN EMPLOYEES OF US PRESS MEDIA, AND AN ESTIMATED FIFTEEN FOREIGN JOURNALISTS. THE LATTER GROUP INCLUDES SWEDISH AND GERMAN TELEVISION TEAMS, LE MONDE, BBC, ETC. WHILE WE HAVE REPEATED OUR REFUSAL TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR EVACUATION OF FOREIGN PRESS THEY WILL OBVIOUSLY LEAN ON US AT THE LAST MINUTE AS THEIR ONLY RECOURSE. WE CAN ONLY SUGGEST AT THIS DATE FURTHER STRONG LANGUAGE BY THE DEPT WITH US BUREAU CHIEFS OF THOSE AMERICAN JOURNALISTS SHOWN ON OUR LAST LIST. (PHNOM PENH 6050).

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Message Attributes

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